



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

For Immediate Release
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Unalakleet Subdistrict Chinook Salmon Closure Announced

Kotzebue, AK...The Federal Subsistence Board announced today that the Federal waters of the Unalakleet River will be closed to the taking of chinook salmon and that beach seines will be the only legal means of harvesting salmon there through the remainder of July. This Special Action becomes effective on Monday, July 10 at 8:00 p.m. This action parallels emergency actions announced by the state.

Both the Unalakleet test fishing program and the North River Tower indicate the passage rates for chinook salmon are far below normal and that the escapement goal ranges are unlikely to be met. On the other hand pink salmon and chum salmon runs are at record strength. Subsistence fishers are required to release all chinook salmon taken in beach seines, but are encouraged to make the most of the strong pink and chum salmon returns. Should the chinook salmon return unexpectedly rebound, this restriction will be lifted prior to its August 1 expiration date.

For additional information please contact Ken Adkisson at 1-907-443-6104.

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